

Specific chemical ingredients

0-15 phr.

26. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein characteristics of the compound, when vulcanized for 30 minutes at 151°C, comprise:

Characteristic		Mean value	Variability
Density	(g/cm ³)	1.196	±0.004;
100% modulus (CA1)	(MPa)	2.3	±0.2;
300% modulus (CA3)	(MPa)	9.8	±0.6;
Ultimate tensile strength	(MPa)	>15.0;	
Ultimate elongation	(%)	>400; and	
Hardness	(IRHD)	73	±2;

wherein IRHD stands for International Rubber Hardness Degrees.--

REMARKS

Applicants submit this Preliminary Amendment together with a national stage entry under 35 U.S.C. § 371.

In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants add section headings, section subheadings, and an Abstract of the Disclosure to conform to U.S. practice. Additionally, Applicants add claims to the right of priority and benefit. Further, Applicants cancel, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 2-13, and add new claims 14-26, which include the same subject matter as the original claims, to improve clarity. The originally-filed specification, claims, abstract, and drawings fully support the amendments to the specification and the addition of new claims 14-26.

26. No new matter was introduced.

LAW OFFICES
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
1300 I STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005
202-408-4000

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment,
please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



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By: _____
Lawrence F. Galvin
Reg. No. 44,694

LAW OFFICES
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON,
FARABOW, GARRETT,
& DUNNER, L.L.P.
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202-408-4000